

Message Text

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ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-01 L-02 SCS-01 SCA-01 DEAE-00 PRS-01

RSC-01 DRC-01 /016 W

----- 020955

R 070234Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3143

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAIPEI 6177

EO 11652 NA

TAGS CASC SNAR TW

SUBJ: POPPY SEED CASE: AUSTIN FRIED

REF A. STATE 214494 B. HONG KONG 10858

C. TAIPEI 4590

1. CASE AGAINST ALAN SHEN AND AUSTIN FRIED NOW APPEARS TO BE VERY MUCH ON BACK BURNER WITH LIKELIHOOD THAT ROC AUTHORITIES WILL LET IT DIE QUIETLY. ALAN SHEN IS STILL OUT ON BAIL, AND CONTACT IN MINISTRY OF JUSTICE INVESTIGATION BUREAU (MJIB) HAS INFORMALLY TOLD MISSION OFFICER THAT MJIB DOES NOT INTEND TO PROSECUTE HIM. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE NOT RETURNED SHEN'S BAIL MONEY OR DROPPED CHARGES AGAINST HIM AND APPARENTLY DO NOT INTEND TO DO SO IN THE NEAR FUTURE. MATTER THUS MAY REMAIN UNRESOLVED INDEFINITELY AND SHEN'S INTERESTS ARE PROBABLY BEST SERVED BY NOT PRESSING THE ISSUE.

2. MJIB CONTACT SAID THAT MJIB NOW CONSIDERS CASE AGAINST AUSTIN FRIED CLOSED.

3. ABOVE INFORMATION FROM MJIB CONTACT IS VERY INFORMAL AND ATTEMPT TO GET MORE PRECISE DEFINITION OF STATUS OF CASE COULD PROVE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NARCOTICS, COURTS DECISIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TAIPEI06177
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740283-0474
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741066/aaaaceeb.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 214494 B. HONG KONG 10858
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <11 MAR 2003 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POPPY SEED CASE: AUSTIN FRIED
TAGS: CASC, SNAR, TW, (FRIED, AUSTIN), (SHEN, ALAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005